

Choice Poetry.

Make Your Mark.
In the quarry should you toil,
Make your mark;
Do you delve upon the soil,
Make your mark;
In whatever place you stand,
Moving swift or moving slow,
With a firm and true hand,
Make your mark.
Should opponents lodge your way,
Make your mark;
Work by night or work by day,
Make your mark;
Struggle manfully and well,
Let not obstacles oppose,
None right-shoulder ever fell,
By the weapons of his foe—
Make your mark.
What though born a peasant's son,
Make your mark;
Good by poor men may be done,
Make your mark;
Peasant's words may calm a feud;
Better far than hoarding gold,
Is the driving of a team—
Make your mark.
Life is fleeting as a shade,
Make your mark;
Mark of some kind must be made,
Make your mark;
Mark it while the arm is strong,
In the golden hours of youth;
Never, never make a mistake,
Make it with the stamp of truth—
Make your mark.

General Intelligence.

Pre-emption.
Questions having been presented "as to the legal relation between certain provisions of the act of Congress of July 22, 1854, to which the offices of Surveyor General in New Mexico, Kansas, and Nebraska, to make donations to actual settlers therein, and for other purposes, and certain treaties of May last with the Delaware, Iowa, and Washington."
Mr. CUSHING, the Attorney General, has given an Opinion thereon to the Secretary of the Interior.

By the treaties with the Indians above named, the United States are to offer at auction all the ceded lands, except the "Outlet," which was ceded for the specific sum of ten thousand dollars; and such of said lands as are not sold are to be subject to private entry for a certain period. All such as remain unsold, after being subject to private entry for three years at the minimum government price, may be graduated and sold—the proceeds, however, except the cost of surveying, to be paid to the Indians.

The "Outlet" is subject to pre-emption, because it is excepted from the land to be sold for the benefit of the Indians; and so are other lands previously ceded, and to which the Indians title is retained. And "here (the Attorney General says) is ample field in which to give effect to the pre-emption provisions of the act of Congress."

The Attorney General seems to indicate, put forth by persons who desire to take pre-emption, "that the act of Congress raises a contract between the settlers and the Government." The obvious answer to the suggestion is, that no implication of legislative contract between the government and individuals can be derived by a mere violation of law.

The whole substance of the argument of the Attorney General is given in the concluding paragraph:

"In fine, my opinion is, that the act of Congress gives pre-emption only in such of these lands as are not required first to be offered at public sale; that the lands ceded by the Delaware, Iowa, and Weas, under condition of being first offered at public sale, are not more opened to pre-emption by the act of Congress than was the military reservation at Fort Leavenworth; that those lands cannot be taken up by settlers under claim of pre-emption; and that all claims of pre-emption there will be more void in law, and will confer no right, now or hereafter, on which to demand the issue of a patent from the Commissioner of Public Lands."

In reference to the extent of the new Territories, the Intelligence remarks: "Frequent inquiries are made by persons disposed to turn their faces towards the setting sun, as to the extent of these new Territories. Kansas has an area of 126,282 square miles, equal to 83,821,122 acres of land. To large portions of this land the Indian title has not been extinguished; but enough is open for settlement to satisfy the most eager enterpriser for years to come."

According to Mr. Manypenny, the lands in the new Territories acquired by the recent Indian treaties, may be classified thus:

Under pre-emption, twelve millions seven hundred and eleven thousand eight hundred and forty acres.
Lands subject to sale as United States lands, with the power in Congress after a limited time to graduate and reduce the price, six hundred and sixty-two thousand six hundred and sixty acres.

Fort Leavenworth Officers.

Some weeks since, the papers of this city published, as an item of news, that the officers at Fort Leavenworth had been put under arrest, for the course they had been pursuing in regard to Delaware lands and the town of Leavenworth. That report was not correct, although we have seen no correction made. We understand the facts to be about these: When Commissioner Manypenny visited the Territory he heard much said, and many reports reached his ears concerning infractions on the Delaware Treaty by squatters. He sits down and writes a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, telling him the condition of things, that he had found a few rich squatters on these lands, created by squatters, and tells him that if they were all burnt he believed the difficulty would be settled. He tells him, also, that Majors Ogden and MacIn, and Capt. Hunt, were not only convicting at the acts of the squatters, but had been using government lands and teams, and may be funds, and private claims on the Delaware lands.

This letter was handed to the Secretary of War, who sent a copy of it to each of the officers. These officers, in answer denouncing the Commissioner's letter as false—demanded of the government a full and thorough investigation of their conduct to the whole matter—and called upon the Department to require Mr. Manypenny to make good his charges, or dismiss him from office.

Thus the matter stands at this time, so far as we have been advised, and will result, no doubt, in an investigation. They say Commissioner Manypenny can't make good his allegations; but we don't suppose that would be a crime, in the eyes of the Administration, to justify his removal. It may be esteemed a virtue by some of the powers that be—*Occidental Messenger.*

Kansas Territory.

We copy the following very interesting communication from the Kansas City Enterprise. It was written by Dr. L. R. Rags:

The distance from this place to the southern line of Kansas Territory is geographically 142 miles, the corner of Kansas being 33 miles short of the corner of the State of Missouri. Near this corner of the Territory, the Neosho (clear or pure) river, descending from the north-west, passes out of the Territory on its southern line. The Neosho is a bold, rapid, rocky stream—water clear—unfit for navigation, but affording admirable water power. The bottom lands along it and its tributaries are of the finest description, and covered with excellent timber, and in much greater quantity than is found in the Kansas valley. The bottom lands on the southern line of the Neosho yield enormous crops of corn, and every production common to the latitude of 37 deg., and have been known, on rare occasions, to produce two full crops of corn in one year. [See reports of Union Mission.] The uplands within this valley are generally of a light sandy or gravelly character, and well adapted to the growth of smaller grains. Lead ore and some coal are found upon its tributaries; and the streams and springs are lasting, as well as the latter are cold and pure. The river has its sources near the Kansas river, west, and north of Council Grove, which is found upon its main branch, 130 miles from this place.

The climate of the valley is delightful, mild, its timber of better description, and more abundant than that of any other valley in the Territory, and its springs and water power also surpass greatly that of any other portion of it.

Emigrants wishing to explore, or settle in this valley, should pursue the Santa Fe road to Council Grove, and there ascend or descend the valley, as they may please. With its surpassing beauty of scenery—its broad and fertile bottom lands, beautiful timber, perennial springs, and mild and beautiful climate, they can not fail to be pleased. Aside from some commercial considerations, it is, in my opinion, the most desirable portion of the Territory; especially as a stock-growing country. South of the Neosho, Verdigris, a considerable stream, by its numerous branches, waters a large, fertile section of country, and descending, passes out of the Territory into the country of the Creek Indians.

The Osage river, which crosses the State line of Missouri about 60 miles south of this place, occupies by its various tributaries nearly the whole country between the State line and the Kansas river, and from Neosho to within 30 miles of the Missouri river.

Its tributaries on the south side are Little Osage and Marmion, which stands Fort Scott, Mine Creek, Sugar Creek, and on the north side Sugar Creek, Bull Creek, Ottawa Creek, and One hundred and ten Creek. The whole of this valley, west of the State line, is underlain by old secondary limestone, which, in many portions, prevents the rise of perennial springs. The streams are consequently, subject to a very low level; and from the rolling surface of the country, liable to great overflow of the bottom lands. The soil is fertile, but in portions of the valley the broad sheets of underlying limestone approach near the surface, and subject such portions to great injury, when rains are not frequent. Other sections of the same section are underlain by magnesian limestone, which, in its soil for the production of grass or grain; but I speak of these only as defects, and which only apply to the lower or eastern portion of this valley.

This river, with all its lower tributaries, has a large supply of timber—much greater than that of the Kansas river. Its climate is milder than that of the last named—grass rising much earlier in the spring, with less of snow in the winter; and is greatly superior as a stock-raising country.

The defects pointed out are more than atoned for by the large deposits of lead ore, and immense coal beds, and fine water power, found within the section. The upper portion of the river, though less amply supplied with timber, may be superior to the lower in soil and supply of spring water.

Emigrants who may feel disposed to explore this valley, may take the road to West Point, on the State line, 60 miles west, or a more western one, to the Weas Mission, about 42 miles from this place; or still more westerly, to the Ottawa Mission, about 93 miles west of the Missouri line. Bull Creek, on this side of the Osage, will be found a desirable country—fine soil, and much good timber.

The main Osage is a fine country, a large amount of timber, and excellent soil, with many beautiful upper tributaries crossing the State line.

Pottawatomie Creek, Sugar Creek, Marmion, and Little Osage, all have excellent valleys. The Shawnee reserve of thirty miles, bounded on the north by the Kansas river, on the east by the State line, on the south by their old survey, and on the west by a line drawn from the same across to the Kansas river, is excellent country, and fills the space lying along the State line, with the exception of the Kansas up to the Missouri river.

First above the reserve, and on the south side of Kansas, we notice the Wakarusa. This stream rises near the Kansas, about 70 miles west of its mouth, and comes down parallel to the main river, its valley filling all the space for some distance between the Kansas and Osage tributaries. The soil of the lower portion of this valley is very fine; the supply of timber on the Osage tributaries, though considerable, springs rather scarce; but abundance of rock, and some coal.

The country at the sources of this stream is inferior—broken, hilly, flinty—timber scarce; but fine for grazing. From the reserve line, ascending the south bank of the Kansas, the soil is fine, traversed by small short streams, falling in from the rim of Wakarusa valley. Above these Sangrean (running horse) Creek, a small stream, falls into the Kansas, 30 miles above the reserve. Eight miles above is Mission Creek, ten miles beyond Deep Creek, and above, and near the junction of Smoky Hill and Republican, Clark's Creek, with many minor and intermediate streams. All the streams here named have broad and fertile bottom lands, with a very moderate supply of timber. Some very fine situations are, however, found upon all of them; and especially high up Deep, or Hill Creek, some choice country is found, with noble springs and fine sites for mills.

The whole country south of the Kansas, to the southern line of the Territory, is comparatively good. Emigrants, in exploring it, should not regard its want of timber as a very great defect, after all. It

is infinitely better as it is, than if covered by the beech and maple forests found by our forefathers; and with its abundance of rock and stone coal, and fair supply of wood, may be brought into use forty years in advance of a country heavily timbered. Rails may be drawn ten miles, with which to inclose a farm, or one tenth of the labor required to clear up forest land. Stone and the Osage orange hedge may also be resorted to for fencing with great advantage. Again, the more emigrants see and know of the country, the more they will be pleased and satisfied with its superiority. Kansas, as a whole, no better country can be found.

Country South of the Kansas River.

An exploring party, says the Parkville Luminary, recently started from this place, to explore the country on the Wakarusa, and on the Marais des Cygnes, (pronounced Mara-de-zen;) and to them are we indebted for the memorandums from which the following paragraphs are arranged. We are also under obligation to them for a fine specimen of pure bituminous coal, to which reference is made below.

"Setting out from Parkville, we have no specific observations to record, until we come to the Wakarusa. We passed up this river on the south side, over some fine prairies, high and rolling. The bottom averaging from a quarter to a mile wide; we saw a few springs of good water. We traveled up the Wakarusa for about 30 miles, when we turned off south, and our course was for 15 miles over high prairies, till we struck the timber on the waters of the Marais des Cygnes. Here we found numerous fine streams, well timbered—the wood averaging a mile in width—high rich bottoms—timber consisting, for the most part, of burr-oak, walnut, mulberry, and coffee-tree—trees tall, and would make fine lumber."

"Below the Ottawa, and down through the Peoria and Kaskaskia country, there is an extensive body of splendid timber—we should say, not less than 10 miles wide, and 15 miles long. The prairies between the streams are well adapted for farms. There is undoubtedly timber enough on the head waters of the Marais des Cygnes to fence in, for agricultural purposes, at least 40 miles square."

"There is, besides, an almost inexhaustible supply of fine line rock, for building and fencing purposes. The springs do not appear to be very numerous, but the drought may have temporarily exhausted many of them; and the probability is, that excellent water for household use will be found in abundance when the settlers come in. The water in the branches looked clear and good; while there was no scarcity of stock water, and ample range. The pea-vine grows here in dense, almost impenetrable masses. The bottoms extend from one to three miles in width, and are covered with winter-grass—where stock may be left throughout the entire cold season, without extra feeding, and keep in first-rate order."

"Here it must be noted, that whoever comes down in this region of country, should first find out John King, an intelligent Ottawa, who will give all useful information to new-comers, show them good claims, &c.; he can be implicitly relied upon, for he has an accurate knowledge of the whole country."

"We saw a fine mill site near the mouth of Pottawatomie Creek; near by, there were also a large cave, and a large spring. The Ottawa tribe at present own a tract 10 miles square, and they think of keeping it; while the smaller tribes talk of taking their reserves on Bull Creek and North Sugar Creek."

"On the whole, the section of Kansas Territory over which we have traveled is capable of being made one of the best in the new country, although at present it is greatly overlooked. The coal, of which we gathered some excellent specimens, crops out on the Wakarusa, and doubtless extends across the country, southeast to the Missouri State line, where it again comes on the surface, and is obtained in large quantities in the vicinity of Westport. There are excellent lands to Kansas City, which is the nearest commercial point to this fine region of country."

Popular Sovereignty.

The twenty-second edition of the Nebraska-Kansas bill, containing the Clayton amendment and the test oath, is as follows:

"Sec. 22. And be it further enacted, That every free white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one years, who shall be an actual resident of said Territory, and shall possess the qualifications hereinafter prescribed, shall be entitled to vote at the first election, and shall be eligible to any office within the said Territory; but the qualifications of voters, and of holding office, at all subsequent elections, shall be such as shall be prescribed by the Legislative Assembly; Provided, That the right of suffrage and of holding office shall be exercised only by citizens of the United States, and those who shall have declared on oath their intention to become such, and shall have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, and the provisions of this act: And provided further, That no officer, soldier, seaman, or marine, or any other person in the army or navy of the United States, or attached to troops in the service of the United States, shall be allowed to vote or hold office in said Territory by reason of being on service therein."

The New York Evening Post explains it as follows:

"The declaration of intention referred to is that mentioned in the naturalization laws; and the oath to support the Constitution is that taken at the end of five years' residence after a declaration of intention. None but citizens, those who are born in the country, or, by a five years' naturalization, have become citizens—swear to the Constitution. The judge appointed will unquestionably so hold, and exclude all others from the polls."

By the same bill, the Indian intercourse act is extended to the Territories, under which it proposes to exclude all foreigners, unless they bear a passport from the War Department, specifying the object for which they visit them, and limiting their sojourn in them.

No attempt will be made to enforce this last feature.

Boys, did you ever think that this great world, with all its wealth and woe, with all its mines and mountains, its oceans, seas, and rivers, steamboats and ships, railroads and steam printing presses, magnetic telegraphs, &c., will soon be given over to the hands of the boys of the present age? Believe it, and look abroad upon the children, and get ready to enter upon your duties.

The Struggle in Kansas.

From the day that the Kansas-Nebraska bill was clothed with the forms of law, we have done what we could to encourage the migration to Kansas of capable, energetic, independent farmers and mechanics, who would endeavor to make her a free Territory, and in due time a free State. We have never represented that region as a paradise, though we believe it contains very much good land, enjoys a fair, mild climate, and lies on one of the great future highways of commercial intercourse between Western Europe and Eastern Asia. We do not believe every one fitted to succeed in Kansas, and have uniformly discouraged the migration of that of any but resolute, strong-handed workers, who would be likely to succeed anywhere.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
With her hills and flowers,
In the bright spring hours,
Dying from the leaves of trees,
And musingly on the perfumed breeze.

We do not mean a seat in the shady nook,
And close by the side of a cooling brook,
Where the violet grows,
Or the pale swampy meadow,
Faintly and darkly the sun's searching beam
Dips her petals in the deep cooling stream.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
In the golden days of farmer's pride,
When the birds are filled
From the fields he's tilled,
And he feels that his yearly task is done—
Sitting at winter, he beckons him on.

At a meeting held in Weston, on the 29th July, A. D. 1854, among others, were the following proceedings:

On motion of Dr. G. W. Bayless, it was unanimously

1. Resolved, That this Association will, whenever called upon by any of the citizens of Kansas Territory, to adopt regulations similar to those of this Association, and to indicate their readiness to co-operate in the object of the first resolution.

2. That we recommend to the citizens of other countries, particularly those bordering on Kansas Territory, to adopt regulations similar to those of this Association, and to indicate their readiness to co-operate in the object of the first resolution.

3. That these resolutions be published in the papers at Weston.

G. G. GALLOWAY, Pres.
B. P. STRINGFELLOW, Secy.

At a large meeting of the Association, held at Platt City, on the 9th August, 1854, among others, were the following proceedings:

The resolutions heretofore offered by Dr. Bayless were called up, and being amended, were unanimously adopted, as follows:

1. That this is no time for neutrals; but it is our right to know who are for us and who are against us; and that we know no better rule than to hold all who are not for us to be against us.

2. That they who hate slave-holders have no right to slave-holders' money, and hence we declare our purpose to be, to trade with our friends—our enemies we will let alone, so long as they let us alone.

3. That we recommend to our merchants to make their purchases in the cities of the slave-holding States. And we furthermore earnestly recommend to our merchants, in the purchase of foreign articles, to buy from those who import directly from Europe.

4. That we will take pains to inform ourselves as to the opinions and conduct of merchants, and others, with whom we propose to trade in St. Louis and elsewhere, on the slavery question, so as to fully carry out the foregoing resolutions.

At a meeting of the Association, held Aug. 12th, 1854, at Weston, among others, were the following proceedings:

Mr. B. F. Stringfellow offered the following resolutions:

1. We do not regard negro slavery as it exists in our country, as either a moral or political evil.

2. To the white race it is neither a moral nor political evil, because it makes color, not money, the mark which distinguishes classes. To white, the color of the freeman, attaches all the privileges of a higher class—and to occupy, without reference to money, a social position, from which the poor white laborer is excluded, is to the State where his color gives no privilege, but money marks his class.

3. The condition of the negro is far better as a slave in our country, than it has ever been in this or any other country in which the negro has been free, and hence, to the negro, slavery, as it exists in our country, is neither a moral nor a political evil.

CITIZENS' MEETING.

Westport, September 1, 1854.
At a meeting of the citizens of Weston and vicinity, G. W. Gist was called to the chair, and Jos. B. Evans appointed Secretary. On motion of W. S. Murphy, Mr. J. B. Wright was called on to explain the object of the meeting. Mr. Wright addressed the meeting in an eloquent and able manner.

On motion of G. T. Hulse, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiment of the meeting. The following persons were selected:—Geo. T. Hulse, J. V. Parrot, Ben. Wood, E. Cady, Col. R. V. W. S. Murphy, and A. B. Hallway. Said committee reported, after a short absence, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted by acclamation:

Whereas, Our rights and privileges, as citizens of Weston, Platt county, Mo., have been disregarded, infringed upon, and grievously violated within the last few weeks by certain members of the "Platte County Self-Defensive Association;" and whereas, the domestic quiet of our families, the sacred honor of our sons and daughters, the safety of our property, the security of our lives and persons, the "good name" of our fathers, and the "good name" of our fathers, and the city of our adoption—are each and all

Poetry.

A Country Home.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
And a seat by the farmer's wood-fringed
Where the first of the birds begin bright,
Where the just and the song and laugh are free,
Oh! the farmer's home is the home for me.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
Where the earth comes out a blushing bride,
With her hills and flowers,
In the bright spring hours,
Dying from the leaves of trees,
And musingly on the perfumed breeze.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
Where the violet grows,
Or the pale swampy meadow,
Faintly and darkly the sun's searching beam
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From the fields he's tilled,
And he feels that his yearly task is done—
Sitting at winter, he beckons him on.

Public Meetings.

Platte Co. Self-Defensive Association.

We cannot do the public better service than by placing the following proceedings of meetings held in Platt County, Mo., in July, August, and September last, on file as a portion of the history of our Territory. Many of the articles are now publishing may appear worthless to the general reader; yet we are desirous of furnishing a complete history of Kansas, to do which we are compelled to go back and bring up many articles of the past.

In due time we shall be publishing the history of to-day only.

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2. To the white race it is neither a moral nor political evil, because it makes color, not money, the mark which distinguishes classes. To white, the color of the freeman, attaches all the privileges of a higher class—and to occupy, without reference to money, a social position, from which the poor white laborer is excluded, is to the State where his color gives no privilege, but money marks his class.

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disrespectful, and vilely aspersed, and contemptuously threatened with mob violence; wherefore, it is imperatively demanded that we, in mass meeting assembled, on this, the first day of September, A. D. 1854, do make prompt, honorable, effective, and immediate defense of our rights and privileges as citizens of this glorious Union; therefore,

1. Resolved, That we, whose names are hereto affixed, are order-loving and law-abiding citizens.

2. Resolved, That we are Union men. We love the South much, but we love the Union better. Our motto is—the Union first, the Union forever.

3. Resolved, That we disapprove the Bayless resolutions, as containing nullification, disunion, and disorganization sentiments.

4. Resolved, That we, as consumers, invite and solicit our merchants to purchase their goods wherever it is most advantageous to the buyer and consumer.

5. Resolved, That we hold every man entitled to equal respect and confidence until his conduct proves him unworthy of the same.

6. Resolved, That we understand the "Douglas bill," as giving all the citizens of this Confederacy equal rights and equal immunities in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska.

7. That we are believers in the dignity of labor; it does not necessarily detract from the moral nor intellectual character of man.

8. That we are competent to judge who shall be expelled from our community, and who shall make laws for our corporation.

9. That mere suspicion is not a ground of guilt; only by overt act, and then only on proof of guilt.

10. That certain members of the Platte County Self-Defensive Association have proclaimed and advocated, and attempted to force measures upon us, contrary to the foregoing principles, which measures we do solemnly disavow and disapprove, and will disclaim as being diametrically opposed to common and constitutional law, and as having greatly disturbed, and well nigh destroyed, the order, the peace and harmony of our families and community, and as being too well calculated seriously to injure us in our property and character, both at home and abroad.

On motion of Samuel J. Finch, it was Resolved, That both papers published in the city of Weston be requested to publish the foregoing preamble and resolutions; and all papers throughout the State friendly to law and order are requested to copy the same.

G. W. GIST, Chairman.
J. B. EVANS, Secy.

In addition to the officers of the meeting, the resolutions are signed by 174 persons.

The New Road.

At a public meeting of the citizens of Parkville, in relation to the building of a road up the north side of Kansas river, and to Lawrence, a committee was appointed to view this route, who reported at a subsequent meeting, suggesting such alterations in the existing road as were necessary. Thereupon R. G. Stevens, T. W. Davis, and F. Burnes were appointed a working committee to notify and request the public-spirited citizens, and the Indians, to work on the road, the number of days each labored to be recorded, and published in the Luminary.

The report for Monday, 18th of December, is: B. F. Nicholson, day and a half; G. S. Park, two days and a half; J. Wilson, one day; T. W. Davis, one day; J. Sharp, one day; J. Richardson, one day; J. Nash, one day; Aspling, Stevens & Co., three days.

On Tuesday and Wednesday the ice in the river prevented the crossing. Further reports next week.

While on the subject, we will remark, that the importance of opening a road westward cannot be over-estimated. A line of great States will soon extend from Missouri to the Pacific ocean, and the advantages that will accrue to our merchants from the trade west of this point, are already beginning to be felt. While other places are dull, the drawers of our dealers are full of gold—while the same yellow representatives glitter in the purses of our farmers, gotten in exchange for their produce. The road in question communicates with the heart of the Delaware nation, who receive large amounts; it also leads to Lawrence, to Pottawatomie, to Big Blue, and the immense territory to the westward.

The daily reports will show who lead in this great public work.—*Luminary.*

The Next Step.

The Missouri compromise being abrogated, and all new territory being as freely open to slavery as to freedom, our countrymen are to what will be the next step taken by the South, to cure and extend the "peculiar institution" that is the cause of so much heart-burning and dispute. The tone of the southern press seems to indicate that the next step will be an attempt to legalize, in every State in the Union, the right of owners of slaves to travel in the free States, and to their human property, without hindrance or molestation, and with the same security to their property as they have in the slave States. As a preliminary to this, an attempt is now making to obtain authority for the doctrine that slavery is not, as used to be considered, an evil; but, on the contrary, a blessing; and a blessing so great, that the slave trade ought to be revived and legalized, as a traffic benevolent in its effects upon the African race, and highly advantageous to this country. The principal defender of this view of slavery, and the slave trade, is the Charleston Mercury, from which paper we copy the following:

We all know ourselves to the people of the South, to whom slavery is most vital; and we know its workings, and appreciate its blessings. We say "Usquequo?" for we claim for African slavery, all that any human institution can claim, in promoting the general good; and we do not hesitate to say, that the southerner who abuses one jot or tittle from this, is entirely ignorant of the facts and argument, or is false to his section. We dismiss all the empty cant of "slavery being a necessary evil." It is no more an evil than society itself, with which it is equal. It is no more an evil than government, or laws, or parental restraint. For man as he is, all these are blessings. And for society as it is, slavery is likewise a blessing. This is the true southern creed. And it involves a conclusion which cannot be resisted in reference to the slave trade. If slavery be an evil, remove all obstacles to its extinction. If it be a blessing, remove all obstacles to its diffusion.

We have just seen the seal of the Territory of Kansas, engraved by Robert Lovett, of Philadelphia, according to the design of Gov. Reeder. It consists of a shield with two supporters, surmounted by a scroll motto, and is emblematic of the life of the pioneer and the agriculturist. The lower compartment of the shield contains the buffalo and the hunter; the upper contains the implements of agriculture. The left hand supporter is a pioneer with a smoke-flecked gun, rifle, and tomahawk; while on the right is the golden cross with her sheaf, as their feet, and between them, is a fallen tree and ax. The motto is a beautiful allusion to the principle on which the Territory was organized, and consists of "POPULI VOCE," thus translated—"Voice of the People." The whole design is, we think, well devised, highly suggestive, and in excellent taste.—*Bar-ton (Pa.) Argus.*

Correspondence.

Letter from a Missourian.

LIBERTY, MO., Dec. 15, 1854.

Mr. BROWN.—Being at Leavenworth City at the time of the election, I was, for a few hours, a spectator of what transpired at the "polls" at that time and place. Being also a resident of Missouri, I felt no inclination to take part in the affairs of the day, except to observe the manner in which the election was conducted.